VZCZCXRO7497 PP RUEHMA RUEHPA DE RUEHOS #1278 2851554 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 121554Z OCT 06 FM AMCONSUL LAGOS TO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 7914 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8042 INFO RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS LAGOS 001278

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DOE FOR GPERSON, CGAY
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELDS
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS
STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR SLISER
STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD
STATE PASS OPIC FOR ZHAN AND MSTUCKART
STATE PASS TDA FOR NCABOT
STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER
STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>EPET ENERG ASEC PTER CASC NI</u>
SUBJECT: 60 SHELL HOSTAGES RELEASED, 7 EXPATS STILL HELD IN
AKWA IBOM

REF: LAGOS 1272

11. The seven expatriate employees of ExxonMobil contractors kidnapped October 3 in Akwa Ibom remain hostages; no American citizens are involved in this incident. On October 12 the British Deputy High Commission confirmed that all 60 oil workers taken hostage October 10 at a Shell logistics base in Bayelsa State were released. (Note: It has been confirmed that 60 individuals, not 10-20 as previously reported (ref), were held at a Shell facility adjacent to a small naval base, both of which were attacked by youths on October 10. End Note.) No Americans were involved in this incident. BROWNE